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Editorial and Contributed.

EVER-CIRCULATORS.

WE have a subscriber out in Kansas who wants to know all about Ever-circulators, and as there may be others who are interested in the subject, now that the winter evenings are approaching, we shall tell how to conduct them.

A number of phonographers who write the same system, agree to contribute a letter or article regularly to a phonographic manuscript magazine. A conductor is appointed, who procures a substantial portfolio of convenient size (say that of the WRITER), and, having engaged on the front inside cover a list of the members or contributors, with their addresses, writes an article or letter, fastens it between the covers by means of an elastic string or similar contrivance, and forwards it by mail to the member whose name is next on the list. This member, on receiving the portfolio, reads the conductor's article, writes one himself, fastens it on another elastic string next to the conductor's, and then despatches the "ever-circulator" to the next member, who goes through the same form, as do all the others, until the member who foots the list returns the portfolio to the conductor again. The latter withdraws his former article and puts another in its place, (first having read the contributions of the other members and written suggestions and criticisms), and again forwards it to the second member, who in turn sends it to the third, and so on: thus the portfolio becomes an "ever-circulator."

The number of members may be large or small, according to the time they have at their disposal for reading and writing. The conductors should supply the members with paper uniform in size, and neatly ruled. A small subscription, say 50c. per year, may be charged, to cover cost of paper, portfolio and incidental expenses. Each member pays the postage in forwarding. In this country such magazines are allowed through the mails at printed matter rates; but there must be no correspondence enclosed.

There is nothing in the phonographic world which is more interesting or furnishes a more easy and pleasant method of becoming acquaint-

ed with the fraternity than ever-circulating magazines; and when the members are in earnest, and strive for profit as well as pleasure, such magazines may be made exceedingly useful to learners. They excite and encourage that enthusiasm which helps the student over the passages at which he is liable to despair, while they lead to friendships which are in many cases life-long.

The conductor of the WRITER, while on the staff of the Guelph *Mercury*, organized an ever-circulating magazine, called the *Rambling Reporter*, which now lies before him, filled with contributions from the sixteen members scattered all over Canada. The sight of the portfolio brings up happy reminiscences of the days when all the members were six years younger than they now are; but, though the magazine ceased its rounds when the enthusiastic period was past, the friendships then formed are abiding.

FACSIMILE REPORTING NOTES.

OUR FRIEND BROWNE, of New York, is very solicitous of the welfare of the WRITER, as can be seen by referring to the notice he published in his *Monthly*, commenting on this publication. Another evidence of his anxiety is to be found in the following extract from a lengthy article in which he has been tracing the origin of facsimile reporting notes, and the history of their development:—

And now we have a worthy rival called *The Canadian Illustrated Shorthand Writer*, in facsimile notes as made a feature. We cannot tell yet what course the editor will take before he gets done illustrating the peculiar beauties of Issac Pitman's fonography in reporting praktis. But we do believe he will learn a lesson of which he little dreams just now. We might predict what it will be, but perhaps that would be unkind.

It was cruel of friend BROWNE to predict extinction because we "dipped into shorthand engravings" extensively; but this latest extract makes us feel worse, because it doesn't predict. Here we are, going on smoothly, fearless of danger, never dreaming of the awful fate which he believes will soon overtake us, and yet he won't "predict what it will be." Oh, come, now,